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5-13-2020

### We Are...Marshall, May 13, 2020

Office of Marshall University Communications

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# WE ARE... MARSHALL®

The Newsletter for Marshall University

May 13, 2020

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## University working on 'Return to Work' plan



Marshall University is developing a comprehensive Return to Work plan that will be deployed this summer. Supervisors, managers, directors and department heads will participate in a Teams meeting later this week to discuss the plan that will allow university employees to return to work in an efficient, safe and organized manner.

The Return to Work plan will be based on the latest information available from national, state and local health authorities and will be rolled out in stages, ensuring a slow, methodical return to our campuses and centers. All employees should continue to monitor their e-mails in the coming weeks for guidance on returning to work. Questions regarding the Return to Work plan may be directed to: [returntowork@marshall.edu](mailto:returntowork@marshall.edu).

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## School of Pharmacy ranks among best pharmacy schools

The **School of Pharmacy** earned top ten status in a new college ranking system grouped by major and degree level that weighs earning potential, tuition and debt. **Grad Reports**, which used U.S. Department of Education data published in 2019, ranked Marshall's School of Pharmacy the **sixth best pharmacy school** overall and for median salary (\$122,000), 13th for median tuition (\$19,522) and eighth for median debt (\$86,145).

"We are extremely proud of our pharmacy program at Marshall University," said Dr. Gayle Brazeau, dean of the school of pharmacy. "We offer hands-on learning in a cutting-edge facility with the lowest pharmacy school tuition in West Virginia."

GradReports rankings are only among the top 25 programs for each major that met certain criteria, including available reported median salary. Please see their website for additional information about their methodologies.

**U.S. News & World Report** also recently ranked Marshall's School of Pharmacy in its Top 100. Marshall was 79th out of 134 pharmacy schools in the country. Marshall tied 10 other schools including: Florida A&M University, Notre Dame of Maryland University and University of Hawaii-Hilo.

"This is an amazing achievement for a school that graduated its first class just five years ago," said Brazeau.

U.S. News health school rankings are based on the results of peer assessment surveys sent to administrators and/or faculty at fully accredited programs.

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## Company co-founded by Marshall chemistry professor to be featured in new TV series



The ABC premiere of "The Genetic Detective," which features a company co-founded by Marshall University Chemistry Professor Dr. Michael Norton, has been delayed a week until 10 p.m. Tuesday, May 26.

The series, "The Genetic Detective," features CeCe Moore, Chief Genetic Genealogist at Parabon NanoLabs in Virginia. Parabon uses DNA technology to solve cold cases, among many other uses, and Moore will share with viewers how she uses science to identify suspects in long-unsolved murder cases.

Parabon NanoLabs (PNL) was founded in 2008, but its beginnings go back to 2005, when now Parabon CEO Steve Armentrout, Ph.D. (and West Virginia native), visited Norton at Marshall, seeking difficult problems that would require massively parallel computation to solve. Norton is a pioneer in DNA-based nanotechnology, and their discussions led to collaborative efforts.

According to the company's website, Parabon's early focus was on oncology therapeutics using DNA nanostructures. Additional applications followed, involving vaccines, drug development, DNA phenotyping and kinship inference. With funding from the Department of Defense Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program from 2011 to 2014, the company's bioinformatics team introduced a new method of DNA testing to the forensic community and developed trait prediction and advanced kinship capabilities for forensics applications. These pioneering efforts paved the way for applying genetic genealogy to criminal casework. Genetic genealogy is the combination of genetic analysis with traditional historical and genealogical research to study family history. For forensic investigations, it can be used to identify remains by tying the DNA to a family with a missing person or to point to the likely identity of a perpetrator.

The company has grown, but DNA has always been its central theme, said Norton, who is its Chief Science Officer. With headquarters in Reston, Virginia, and scientific researchers working in Virginia, and Seattle, Washington, it also has one branch in Huntington, where DNA nanotechnology experiments are performed by researchers trained in Norton's labs at Marshall.

"The company is very flat in the sense that all participants have direct communication with everyone else, and there are no layers of bureaucracy providing barriers and preventing great ideas from bubbling to the top. The group is smart, highly critical with the understanding that gems can be produced under high pressure," Norton said.

"It is amazing that the bioinformatics arm of the company has helped law enforcement solve these cases at the rate of about one case per week for almost 18 months," he said. "Although the focus is on cold cases, since in those situations it is known that traditional methods have come to a dead end, I think that solving current cases could be done just as readily. We know that other companies are working to emulate our success. However, Parabon was so perfectly positioned to perform these DNA investigations that we were the first company to apply these techniques."

The efforts of several people have created a fertile environment for success, Norton said.

"Certainly, working with CeCe has been key to the success of this endeavor," Norton said. "As a pioneer in the genetic genealogy field, she prepared herself extremely well for this special time in history, when a perfect storm of technology, computer science, connectivity and well-trained curiosity have come together."

Norton went on to say, "In these days of COVID-19, one would not think that the importance of science needs more publicity, however, we know the number of questions that science can answer is much bigger than the number of students entering STEM fields. I am grateful for every science educator and scientist who influenced me to join their ranks. They have provided me with an opportunity to play a small part in solving some problems. Most exciting, however, is the fact that in science, there are always surprises, often pleasant ones, and that keeps the future interesting."

With inquiries for Norton, PNL or ABC, contact Jean Hardiman at Marshall at [jean.hardiman@marshall.edu](mailto:jean.hardiman@marshall.edu).

## University conducting survey regarding Aug. 8 commencement



Marshall is asking May 2 graduates to participate in a survey regarding the Aug 8 commencement date, which was announced last week. Faculty and staff who are in touch with recent graduates are asked to encourage their participation in the short survey, which may be found at

[www.marshall.edu/commencement/commencement-survey](http://www.marshall.edu/commencement/commencement-survey).

University officials said the exact location of the commencement will be announced early this summer, but the most likely venue is the Mountain Health Arena. If health guidelines and social distancing requirements prevent using the arena, an outdoor location may be used.

Originally scheduled for Saturday, May 2, the ceremony was canceled to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, as directed by public health guidelines for large gatherings. Seniors graduated on time because their degrees were conferred in May—only the official ceremonies were postponed. During the last week of April, Marshall celebrated its graduating students during a weeklong social media campaign complete with video messages from their college deans and other top officials at the university.

"We are very hopeful the pandemic situation in late summer will allow the university to move forward with the Aug. 8 commencement," said Dr. Sonja Cantrell-Johnson, Marshall's registrar. "The Class of 2020 is one of the most resilient classes in the history of our university and we want to honor them with a traditional commencement event."

If the Aug. 8 date is not possible because of continuing public health concerns, the university will honor the Class of 2020 at a later date in the fall or at the Winter Commencement in December.

Spring 2020 graduates should continue to monitor their official Marshall e-mail accounts for details. Updates also will be posted online at [www.marshall.edu/commencement](http://www.marshall.edu/commencement).

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**FRIDAY, MAY 15TH  
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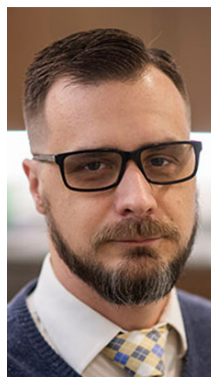
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## **School of Pharmacy announces faculty/staff award winners, scholarship recipients**



*John Taylor*



*Kenneth Canipe*



*Timothy Long*

The **Marshall University School of Pharmacy** announced the recipients of its new employee award program this month.

The School of Pharmacy's 2020 faculty and staff award winners are:

**School of Pharmacy Faculty and Staff Awards for 2020**

- *School of Pharmacy Staff Person of the Year:* John Taylor, A.A.S., instructional technologist
- *School of Pharmacy Teacher of the Year:* Kenneth Canipe, Pharm.D., clinical assistant professor of experiential learning



- *Dean's Award for Excellence in Research:* Timothy Long, Ph.D., associate professor, department of pharmaceutical science and research.
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Also, the following scholarships were announced in May. Nineteen students received the following scholarships; four of the students received two scholarships.

- *CVS Bilingual Scholarship:* Desmond Besong
- *CVS Pharmacy Scholarship:* Melba Vargas
- *Fruth Pharmacy Scholarships for the School of Pharmacy:* Keaton Kaplan, Shannon Morrison, Samantha Dinis
- *MU School of Pharmacy Scholarships:* Nakita Bryan, Austin Howitz, Keaton Kaplan, Jonathan Nicholson, Sarah Nickel, Carly Preece, Caroline Putnam, Lakyn Wallace
- *MU School of Pharmacy Dean's Scholarship:* Shayna Follett, Sheshadri Hoque, William Mays
- *MU School of Pharmacy Leadership Scholarships:* Becky Cook, Noah Dial, Sheshadri Hoque, William Mays, Taylor Riedel, Tanner Sweeney
- *Professional Development Scholarship:* Shannon Morrison

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## **Marshall engineering study helps reduce flood risks for West Virginia community**

A long-term study by Marshall civil engineering faculty and students is contributing to a flood mitigation project for the city of Rainelle, West Virginia. A \$1,084,875 grant recently approved by the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) supports the study, which examines the infrastructure modifications needed within the city to convey water from the drainage basin safely to the Meadow River.

The FEMA grant is in response to the June 2016 Presidential Major Disaster Declaration and is part of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), established to reduce the risk to citizens' lives and property should future disasters occur.

"Marshall University has provided excellent computer-based flood simulations for us since 2004," said Wayne Brown of the Western Greenbrier Business Development Corporation (WGBD), who assisted in a grant application to HMGP for a proposed flood relief channel. "Essentially, they performed a flood simulation in 2004 that unfortunately came true in 2016. We used the results of their flood simulations in the grant application that we made to FEMA. We are very appreciative of the engineering expertise that Marshall University has provided and continues to provide.

"The historic flood in 2016 wreaked havoc in this small community, resulting in the loss of five lives and over 100 homes," Brown said. "The city has also been prone to flooding with significant flooding events in 2003 and 2011, and is still in FEMA-designated recovery from the 2016 event."

The computer modeling was directed by Professor of Engineering Dr. Richard Begley.

"First, we want to remember those who lost their lives, their family members as well as those who suffered other losses during the 2016 flood," Begley said. "Second, we recognize that the citizens of Rainelle are very concerned that flooding may be more prevalent because of climate change in the future. And we are ready to bring the best tools available for helping to design long-term solutions for preventing flooding in this beautiful, culturally rich and economically vital part of West Virginia."

The Marshall study began because of a smaller flooding event in 2003, when a team of graduate students collected precise elevations of the city streets in addition to the two streams that traverse through the city and their respective bridges. This data was then used to perform flood simulations, which suggested that the clearance of one of the bridges was too low and had the potential to increase the extent of flooding in the city from larger precipitation events, Begley said.

Shortly after the flood of 2016, in which Rainelle received over 7.6 inches of rain in a 36-hour time period, another graduate student secured a video captured by a drone on the day of the flood. He then compared the flood simulations performed in 2004 with the extent of the 2016 flood. The perimeter of the flood predicted by the simulation performed in 2004 was nearly identical with the perimeter of the 2016 flood.

"We are appreciative of the vital role that the planning and development experts in this region of West Virginia played in coordinating with all the governmental entities to make these funds a reality," Begley said. "The timing is very fortunate, as just (recently), a team of our senior civil engineering students presented their capstone project, which focused on studying options for installing a new storm water management system for a portion of the city. They were very excited to know that the project they chose to use for their capstone project could have potential benefits for one of our communities. And we look forward to working with the council, WGBD, the City of Rainelle and the engineering firm that will be performing the final designs for the two projects."

"Several communities in West Virginia are very concerned that flooding may have more occurrence in the future. Dr. Begley has clearly demonstrated a much-appreciated flood prediction effort that goes back to 2004," said Dr. Wael Zatar, dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Sciences. "I have personally witnessed his remarkable interest to do the best he can to support the citizens of Rainelle."

"Dr. Begley has performed computer modeling to assist designing a long-term solution for preventing flooding in that region and has led a wonderful team of our senior civil engineering students who studied the subject and presented their capstone project detailing a few options for installing a storm water management system for a portion of the city," Zatar added.



## Newest class of Yeager Scholars announced



With roots that vary from Colombia, South America, to southern West Virginia, seven future scientists, doctors and engineers have decided to join the Marshall family as the new class of Yeager Scholars.



Society of  
Yeager Scholars

Stadelman  
Class of 2024

The class, which will be known as the Stadelman Family Class of 2024, joins 23 current students and 30 classes of alumni in the Society of Yeager Scholars, Marshall's top academic scholarship.

The students were selected after a competitive interview weekend on Marshall's Huntington

campus. Marshall President Dr. Jerry Gilbert personally called each student to extend the scholarship offer.

"Bringing in a new class of Yeager Scholars is always an occasion for celebration at Marshall," Gilbert said. "I had the distinct pleasure of talking with each of this year's scholars, and I am thrilled that we have such outstanding students joining the Marshall family. These scholars, along with other outstanding students at Marshall, will be our future leaders, and I am very proud of them all."

The students in the Stadelman Family Class of 2024 average a 4.18 grade point average and a 32 ACT score. While undergraduates, the students will be members of Marshall's Honors College, receive full tuition and other financial assistance, opportunities for international study, professional enrichment and leadership guidance. They also take a required curriculum of seminars that promote liberal arts, critical thinking and writing skills.

"Each fall, we welcome our incoming class of Yeager Scholars," said Honors College Dean Dr. Nicki LoCascio. "There is always great anticipation from the Marshall community to meet and get to know these excellent students. I, again, am excited by these seven scholars who bring so many talents and interests to the Huntington campus."

The seven students in the Stadelman Family Class of 2024 follow:

- **Melanie Clark**, from South Charleston, West Virginia, will graduate from the International Baccalaureate program at South Charleston High School. She plans to major in biomedical engineering, leading to a career in medical research.
- **Sofia Garcia Arias**, originally of Bogotá, Colombia, now lives in Morgantown, West Virginia, and attends Morgantown High School. She plans to major in biology and become a physician. She would like to be involved in projects that provide health care services for immigrants and others who lack knowledge of the English language.

- **Tyler Hebert**, of Huntington, attends Cabell Midland High School. She plans to major in civil engineering and wants to inspire other girls to explore STEM fields.
- **Addison Leaberry** of Huntington, will graduate from St. Joseph Central Catholic High School. She plans to major in biology and hopes to go on to an M.D./Ph.D., with a career in epidemiology.
- **Shawna Lockard**, from Crum, West Virginia, attends Tolsia High School. She plans to study biology and hopes to one day join Doctors Without Borders.
- **Isabella Schrader**, of Huntington, is the first Yeager Scholar from the Tri-State STEM+M school. She plans to major in biomedical engineering.
- **Allison Smith**, of Wayne, West Virginia, attends Wayne High School. She will major in environmental engineering and hopes to start a large community garden in Huntington.

All classes are named after exceptional supporters of the program and this year's class bears the name of Yeager alumnus Chris Stadelman. Stadelman, a 1992 graduate, died in 2018 after a lengthy battle with colorectal cancer. Mere weeks before his passing, Stadelman and his wife, Kelly, started the Stadelman Family Endowment for the Society of Yeager Scholars, supporting the program in perpetuity.

For more information on the Yeager program, please contact Coordinator Cara Bailey by phone at 304-696-2474 or by e-mail at [bailey160@marshall.edu](mailto:bailey160@marshall.edu). More information can also be found at [www.marshall.edu/yeager](http://www.marshall.edu/yeager).

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## Marshall announces newest class for accelerated B.S./M.D. program



Marshall and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine have selected 10 high school seniors from across West Virginia as the newest class of students for the accelerated B.S./M.D. program.

The program was established in 2015 as a pathway for high-performing West Virginia students to finish both their Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Medicine degrees in seven years. The new class joins 20 B.S./M.D. students currently in medical school.

and 28 students in the undergraduate portion of the curriculum.

The following students have been accepted into the program and will begin their undergraduate coursework at Marshall this fall.

- Bailey Baker – Lincoln County High School (Lincoln County)
- Sarah Eaglen – Morgantown High School (Monongalia County)
- Zoya Khalid – George Washington High School (Kanawha County)
- Sophia McMillion – Robert C. Byrd High School (Harrison County)
- Gavin Nease – Cabell Midland High School (Cabell County)
- Wade Ritchie – Richwood High School (Nicholas County)
- Darshan Sangani – George Washington High School (Kanawha County)
- Emma Sitler – George Washington High School (Kanawha County)
- Sidney Strause – Wood County Christian School (Wood County)
- Cassidy Woodrum – Huntington High School (Cabell County)

About 90% of the cohort reported that they held part-time jobs during high school. In fact, several have held more than one job. In addition to working outside of school, many are student leaders, athletes and community volunteers.

"We have a unique group of hard-working students," said Jennifer T. Plymale, associate dean of admissions for the School of Medicine. "They have learned to balance all of these responsibilities while maintaining academic excellence—a skill that will serve them well in medical school and in the practice of medicine."

Students begin the application process the summer prior to their senior year of high school. The program is open to West Virginia high school students who achieve a minimum ACT composite score of 30 (or equivalent SAT) and an ACT math score of 27 (or equivalent SAT), as well as a cumulative GPA of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale. Other criteria include three letters of recommendation and an on-campus interview.

Students who successfully complete the undergraduate program requirements will matriculate directly into medical school. They are not required to take the Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT). Additionally, the students will receive a tuition waiver for the medical school portion of the program.

"Deciding to be a physician at this point in history means to have the courage to stand in the face of danger and the unknown as well as to have hope for a future where we can make a difference for others," said Strause, a senior at Wood County Christian School in Williamstown, West Virginia, who will enter the program this fall. "I knew I wanted to be a doctor when I started volunteering at my local hospital in 10th grade. The more aware I became of people in need of medical treatment, the more my heart ached to help them, and watching doctors work in the hospital was inspirational—I wanted to be able to help in the same way."

Plymale said the program is just one of the ways Marshall University is working to keep talented, bright students in West Virginia. For more information about the program, visit <https://jcesom.marshall.edu/students/accelerated-bsmd-program/>.

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## Faculty Achievement – Dr. Anara Tabyshalieva

Anara Tabyshalieva, associate professor of history, received the Kennan Institute Short-Term Grant supported by the United States Department of State. She is commencing her research project, titled "Rethinking cooperation and conflict between Russia and the Central Asian countries" this month. Further information is available at <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/person/anara-tabyshalieva>.

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## Zatar appointed founding chair of prestigious national transportation committee



Dr. Wael Zatar, dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Sciences (CECS), has been appointed to become the founding chair of the National Standing Committee on Innovative Highway Structures and Appurtenances of the Transportation Research Board (TRB) of the National Academies. The committee has been formed to address all aspects of applications of fiber-reinforced polymer composites in transportation structures. They will focus on building information modeling and structures such as bridges, maintenance, buildings, pipes, sign and luminaire support poles, and guard rails.

The committee aims to become the largest and most prestigious international committee on the subjects of modern highway structures and innovative applications of fiber reinforced polymers.

Prior to accepting this appointment, Zatar served for two consecutive terms, a total of six years, as the chair of the National Committee on Structural Fiber Reinforced Polymers of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies. The committee served as the flagship international committee on the subject of structural fiber reinforced polymers. He served on the committee for 17 consecutive years.

Zatar has been recognized several times nationally for his leadership role in developing and implementing structural fiber reinforced polymers in transportation engineering. He has been a pioneer in the field, has

trained hundreds of experts over the past three decades and has received numerous awards for contributions to the field of bridge engineering. Zatar also has served as a keynote speaker around the globe.

"I am a very proud Marshall University employee and it has been my absolute honor to serve our nation in these capacities," he said.

Zatar has been the only professor from West Virginia to serve these roles in the fields of composites' application to transportation bridges and the development of innovative solutions for the nation's crippling infrastructure.

The TRB is a division of the National Research Council (NRC), a private, nonprofit institution that provides expertise in science and technology to the government, the public, and the scientific and engineering communities. The NRC is jointly administered by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering and the Institute of Medicine.

"It is an absolute privilege to be appointed as the founding chair for the standing National Committee on Innovative Highway Structures and Appurtenances of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies," Zatar said. "I am determined to do my very best to serve our country while getting our beloved Marshall University the credit it deserves."

In his role, Zatar will arrange meetings and workshops, help identify research needs and serve as a liaison with stakeholders including the Federal Highway Administration Fiber-Reinforced Polymer Composites virtual team, the American Concrete Institute and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. He also will help collect the latest knowledge in the field to implement state-of-the-art practices for innovative repair technologies in West Virginia and throughout the United States.

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## Retired professor purchases final equipment needed for University Heights composting facility



Dr. Leslie Petteys, a retired professor of music at Marshall, made a \$50,000 gift to support and finalize the purchase of an anaerobic digester for University Heights, the university's new composting facility. Because of her generous donation, University Heights will now be fully operational by July 2020.

Located off Route 60 in Huntington, University Heights will allow Marshall University to be approximately 70% waste free. In addition to providing job and internship opportunities for Marshall students and community members, the composting

facility will collect and recycle organic waste from the university's Huntington campus to compost and reuse on campus grounds.

Marshall University's Sustainability Department has secured an underdeveloped, 60-acre land tract that is 4.5 miles from the Huntington campus to construct the compost, hydroponic and greenhouse facility. The facility will also be used as a laboratory space for the Specialty Agriculture major that is currently being developed through the Natural Resources and Environment Departments in the College of Science.

"I am so impressed that Marshall has a Sustainability Department," Petteys said. "I applaud Lauren Kemp and Eve Marcum Atkinson for the pioneering work they did to get it off the ground. Amy Parsons-White has definitely taken the department to the next level and I am impressed by the initiatives she has instituted. I can't wait to see how else Marshall and the Sustainability Department create many more firsts in the state and region."

"Since my college days, I have been interested in green initiatives, gardening and recycling. I think the composting project, the new agriculture degree, and other trainings and partnerships the Sustainability Department and Marshall are creating will have a great impact, making this corner of the world more sustainable self sufficient and setting a great example for other communities."

Amy Parsons-White, sustainability manager, is grateful for individuals like Petteys and Tom Wolf, who have made generous contributions to make this project a reality.

"I am thankful for the support I have received from President Gilbert, the Huntington and the Marshall communities. The compost facility will put us one step closer to our goal of being waste free by 2025. It's an ambitious goal, but it's one we can accomplish," Parsons-White said.

The university's new composting facility was [announced in November 2019](#), and with this last piece of equipment secured, the fully functional facility will hold up to eight cubic yards of waste at a time and can be harvested daily. The compost will be finished in a 5' x 40' worm bin, which will hold 50,000 red wiggler worms. Compost produced by the worms will be harvested twice a week and will be the finished product that will be used on the Huntington campus and sold to the public.

For more information about University Heights or other projects within the Sustainability Department, contact Parsons-White at [parsons133@marshall.edu](mailto:parsons133@marshall.edu).

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## In Memoriam: Dr. Clara C. Reese



Dr. Clara C. Reese, a longtime member of the Marshall faculty, died April 6.

In 1980, Dr. Reese took a position in what was then called Department of Adult and Technical Education in the College of Education and Human Services at Marshall. During the first 11 years of her tenure, she traveled throughout West Virginia teaching post-graduate and enrichment courses to the public school teachers. During the remainder of her tenure, she taught on-campus courses, supervised numerous grant programs, often represented Marshall as a conference speaker and published widely. She retired in May 2009.

In the 31 years she lived in Huntington, Reese was very active and took a leadership role in the community. She served on the Institutional Review Committee at St. Mary's Hospital, the League of Women Voters, and volunteered at Mayes Riverside Manor, a local nursing home. She also served on the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Club of Huntington, the Board of Directors for the Huntington Lions Club and the Board of Advisers for the local Salvation Army post. She was also very active in the Fourth Avenue Methodist Church, where she taught Sunday school and sang in the Chancel Choir. Of all of her contributions to the Huntington community, Reese said she was most proud of her leadership participation role in the location and construction of a new state-of-the-art facility for Hospice of Huntington.

The full obituary may be read online at <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/hickory-nc/clara-reese-9114192>.

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## Marshall Health's pharmacy residency program receives accreditation

Marshall Health's pharmacy residency program has earned accreditation from the [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists \(ASHP\)](#). The designation is granted to post-graduate year-one pharmacy residency programs that meet rigorous criterion for learning experiences during the program.

"We are proud to offer an accredited residency program for Pharm.D. graduates who want to pursue additional training in advanced patient care services," said Jeffrey A. Fenerty, R.Ph., director of pharmacy services at Marshall Health.

Marshall Health's residency program provides 12 months of experience in Marshall Health's [community retail pharmacy](#) and through Marshall Health clinical rotations including family medicine, internal medicine, oncology, neurology and psychiatry. The residents are guided by pharmacy preceptors,



Marshall Health physicians and Marshall School of Pharmacy faculty. They also complete a research project and have elective rotation options such as pharmacy management.

Marshall Health's pharmacy residency program has been operating under provisional accreditation since it **began in 2017**. It has two residency slots available each year with matches determined through a national match program sponsored by the ASHP. For additional information, please visit: <https://www.marshallhealth.org/services/pharmacy-services/pharmacy-residency-program/>.

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## Art students host virtual reception for their Atlanta-based exhibit 'Minimum Capacity'



Students from the Marshall University School of Art and Design hosted a virtual reception May 8 for their exhibit *Minimum Capacity*, which will be on display until May 28 in a nonprofit project space in Atlanta as they await an opportunity to present an expanded version of their work locally later this year, with hopes that the COVID-19 pandemic will be past.

The project, led by Sandra Reed, professor in the School of Art and Design at Marshall, underwent transformation throughout the semester as the pandemic changed circumstances for all involved. The grant-funded project, which was supported by the Joan

C. Edwards Distinguished Professors in the Arts Endowment, involved 12 students, who worked with Reed and guest artist Craig Drennen, an Atlanta-based native of West Virginia. Drennen visited the Huntington campus in January and joined students during a trip to New York, where six of the students met Drennen and viewed his work at the Hathaway Gallery booth at the Art on Paper Art Fair on March 6.

"Meeting with Craig Drennen not only guided us through useful exhibition strategies today, but it also gave insight into working with and building trust with curators to navigate a professional art career," said art student Alex Simental.

While on campus, Drennen worked with students on do-it-yourself (DIY) exhibition strategies, which turned out to be useful during the COVID-19 pandemic. Eventually, the students had to postpone the planned spring exhibition until the fall semester and decided to create a "zine" to introduce their work this spring. A "zine" is a small, self-published, low-tech magazine. The zine, *Minimum Capacity*, relates to what the students will eventually be exhibiting here in Huntington as *Maximum Capacity*, toward the end of the year. The students' zine includes a statement and an illustration of their artwork that address

expansive topics such as infrastructure, possessions, technology, femininity, stereotypes, success, religion, cultural perspectives, inequity, identity, family and competition.

"Changing to a digital format has challenged us to come up with new ideas and think more about how audiences will interpret our work in various settings," Simental added.

The students who have participated are: Bree Black of Huntington; Sophia Celdrán of Lesage; Raigan Hagerman of Charleston; Peyton Dolin of Huntington; Savannah Julian of Winfield; Benjamin Pinson of Huntington; S. Alex Simental of Huntington; Sa-Rai Robinette of Flatwoods, Kentucky; E. Wayman-Murdock of Huntington; Zhuning Huang of Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China; Carson Stivason of Huntington; and Jonathan Williamson of Wayne.

As an added dimension to the project, Drennen offered to display poster-sized copies of the *Minimum Capacity* zine illustrations at THE END, a nonprofit project space that he maintains in Atlanta, as prelude to the original, fully developed *Maximum Capacity* exhibition here in Huntington in a space along 3rd Avenue, offered by Dr. Joseph Touma.

"This project has evolved and adapted to the unexpected impact of COVID-19," Reed said. "The students have turned that impact into an opportunity to expand the scope and reach of their project. That may be one of the key learning outcomes, to ask, 'If we can't do what we expected, what can we do instead?' This project has been a case study in thinking on their feet."

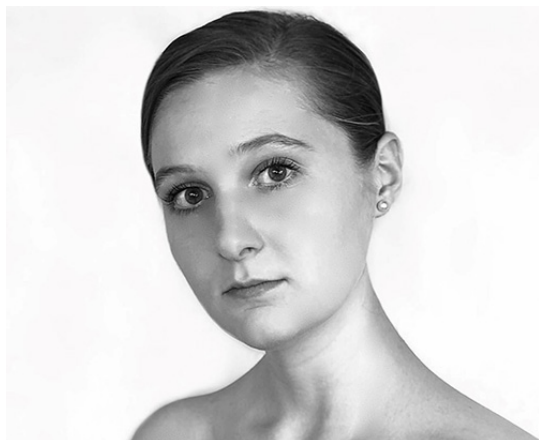
Along with the Joan C. Edwards Distinguished Professors in the Arts endowment, the project has been undertaken with support from the College of Arts and Media, the School of Art and Design, and the Galleries department. Reed also expressed appreciation to Laura Hathaway for hosting the students at the Art on Paper Art Fair and to Drennen himself for expanding the scope of this project at each stage.

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## Mary Anna Ball receives Fulbright award



Mary Anna Ball, a West Virginia native and recent Marshall graduate, has received a Fulbright U.S. Student Program award to the United Kingdom in dance from the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. Ball will study dance at University of Roehampton as part of a project to study the change in perception of both dance and performer from classical antiquity to the modern era.

"I have had the privilege of knowing Mary Anna as a student in my classroom and as an Honors College

student," said Honors College Dean Dr. Nicola LoCascio. "She is dynamic and epitomizes the best of Marshall University. She is so deserving of this award."

Ball majored in humanities and Latin at Marshall University, and has worked with the Charleston Ballet Company since 2015. In 2019, she received a regional Emmy Award for Best Arts/Entertainment Program for her role in the documentary, "Andre Van Damme and the Story of the Charleston Ballet." During her Fulbright project, she hopes to especially focus on the images and perception of ballerinas in the Romantic era.

"I am very excited, honored and humbled to have been selected for this award," Ball said. "This is an opportunity I never thought I would be able to experience, and I cannot wait to engage and explore all the Fulbright, London and my research have to offer.



"This is all thanks to the Marshall Classics Department, Honors College, National Scholarships Office, and the Charleston Ballet. All of these led me to a dream-come-true program, and I could not have done it without their support, and the support of my family and friends. It truly is an honor to be able to represent Marshall and my community in this way."

Ball is one of over 1,900 U.S. citizens who will conduct research, teach English and provide expertise abroad for the 2020-2021 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement as well as record of service and leadership potential in their respective fields.

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to build lasting connections between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. The Fulbright Program is funded through an annual appropriation made by the U.S. Congress to the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Participating governments and host institutions, corporations and foundations around the world also provide direct and indirect support to the program, which operates in over 160 countries worldwide.

Since its inception in 1946, the Fulbright Program has given more than 380,000 students, scholars, teachers, artists, professionals and scientists the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Fulbrighters address critical global challenges in all areas while building relationships, knowledge, and leadership in support of the long-term interests of the United States. Fulbright alumni have achieved distinction in many fields, including 59 who have been awarded the Nobel Prize, 82 who have received Pulitzer Prizes, and 37 who have served as a head of state or government.

For further information about the Fulbright Program or the U.S. Department of State, please visit <http://eca.state.gov/fulbright> or contact the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Press Office at [ECA-Press@state.gov](mailto:ECA-Press@state.gov).

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## Marshall student receives SMART Scholarship



Jacqueline Brown, a Marshall senior, has received a National Defense Education Program SMART (Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation) Scholarship. As part of the program, Brown will participate in a summer internship at a Department of Defense facility and receive civilian job placement after graduation with the Department of Defense, in addition to a stipend and scholarship.

A computer and information security major, Brown is active in research, community service and leadership. She is a computer science leadership program leader, and also works as a NASA West Virginia Space Grant Consortium undergraduate student fellowship researcher, where she researches Collusive Interest Flood attacks. In the past, she has participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience, and is a member of the Society of Black Scholars.

Brown says she is very excited about the opportunities the SMART Program will provide.

"I am very grateful to have been selected for the SMART Scholarship," she explains. "I am thrilled to be able to help our nation as a part of the Department of Defense."

Dr. Wael Zatar, dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Sciences, says Brown is the kind of hard worker that deserves an opportunity like this one.

"I have had the absolute pleasure to have several wonderful interactions with Jack over the past couple of years and she continues to impress me with her talent, devotion, love of computer science and cybersecurity, and persistence to reach to the top," Zatar said. "She has conducted research in the areas of cybersecurity, wireless networks & mobile computing, and named data networking under the supervision of Dr. Cong Pu since Fall 2018. She published significant research results at the 2020 IEEE International Conference on High Performance Switching and Routing (HPSR) and the 2019 IEEE International Conference on Cyber Physical and Social Computing (CPSCom). Her motivation and persistence to climb to the top made it possible to land the very prestigious SMART Scholarship."

Zatar said he's proud of what Brown has been able to accomplish and looks forward to what the future holds for her.

"I am so proud of Jack's unique achievement, look forward to hearing lots of positive updates and trust she will be able to make all her dreams come true," Zatar said.

The SMART Scholarship is awarded to students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines who demonstrate an interest in working for the federal government. Awardees must be eligible to receive and maintain a security clearance and must be U.S. citizens. The program has an average overall award rate of 14% and accepted around 350 scholars this year.

For more information on the SMART Scholarship, contact [smart@lmi.org](mailto:smart@lmi.org) by e-mail or Mallory Carpenter with Marshall University's Office of National Scholarships by e-mail at [Mallory.carpenter@marshall.edu](mailto:Mallory.carpenter@marshall.edu) or by phone at 304-696-2475.

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## Digital Humanities program offers digital conference

The Marshall Digital Humanities program is hosting a digital conference through Marshall Digital Scholar for any individuals who had conferences cancelled due to COVID-19. Here is the conference link and the call for papers:

[https://mds.marshall.edu/digital\\_humanities/](https://mds.marshall.edu/digital_humanities/)

The Marshall Digital Humanities Virtual Conference is an opportunity to share research and connect with other scholars during the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to COVID-19, spring conference season has not turned out as planned. Conference organizers have cancelled or postponed events in an effort to minimize the spread of the virus. University officials have recommended that faculty and staff work from home, when possible. Social distancing has meant fewer occasions to meet face-to-face with colleagues and friends. However, this virtual conference provides an opportunity for scholars to share their work with others.

The virtual conference, sponsored by Marshall Digital Humanities, is open to all topics and disciplines. We invite full-text papers; visual, audio, and video presentations; posters; panels; round tables; and other conference/symposium materials. Rather than abstracts alone, this virtual conference site will collect full presentations to instigate a conversation about the work scholars are doing at this time.

While the Marshall Digital Humanities Virtual Conference was created to make a place for those presentations that were cancelled, we welcome any original research projects interested in being part of a scholarly conversation. Please note: in order to avoid duplication, participants may not wish to submit presentations for conferences that have been postponed (rather than cancelled) or presentations that the scholar intends to submit to a future conference.

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## Archives and Special Collections gathering statements regarding COVID-19 from faculty, staff and students

Marshall University Archives and Special Collections is creating a collection of materials by West Virginians impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) around a central question: “How have you, your family, or community been impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak?” We especially want to hear from Marshall students, faculty, and staff to ensure their voices and experiences are added to the historical record.

Submissions are being collected here:

<https://forms.gle/DFiQWMCfqT4ragYaA>

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Source: The New York Times, 3/19/20

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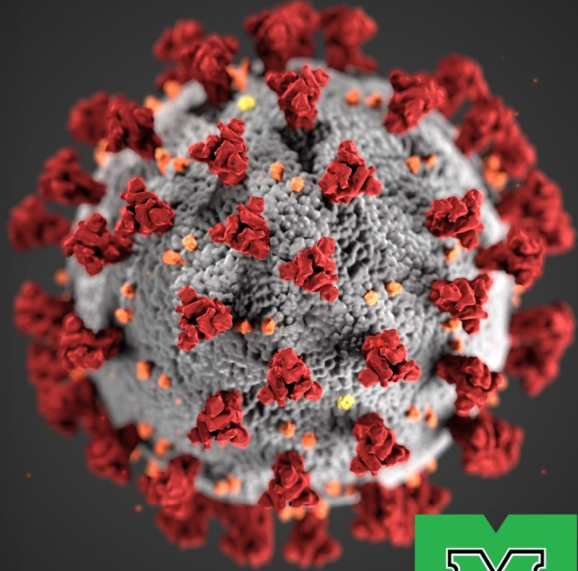
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# Stay *Informed...*

For COVID-19 and  
Marshall University updates, visit:  
[www.marshall.edu/coronavirus](http://www.marshall.edu/coronavirus)



For additional information, visit:  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)



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## WMUL-FM students bring home awards from regional, national competitions



Students from Marshall University's public radio station, WMUL-FM, received awards from the seventh annual "The Virginias" Associated Press Broadcasters awards ceremony and the 18th annual Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts Student Audio Competition.

In "The Virginias," students earned two first-place awards and four second-place awards in the metropolitan classification. The awards ceremony took place online May 2, due to the

COVID-19 pandemic. This is the third time the university's radio station competed in the Radio I/ Metropolitan Division with the major commercial and noncommercial radio stations from throughout the two states.

"Winning the 2019 Best Station Promo and Best Sports Play-by-Play first place awards are an amazing accomplishment considering that Best Station Promo is a new category entry for WMUL-FM, and the FM 88 Sports Staff now has won Best Sports Play-by-Play for three straight years in the Radio I/Metropolitan



Division while competing against veteran broadcasting professionals working for all the major news/sports talk radio stations across both West Virginia and Virginia," said Dr. Chuck Bailey, professor of radio-television production and management in the W. Page Pitt School of Journalism and Mass Communications at Marshall University and faculty manager of WMUL-FM.

"Also, this contest marks the first year in the Radio I/Metropolitan Division that WMUL-FM has placed simultaneously in both Outstanding News Operation and Outstanding Sports Operation."

The two first-place station and individual award-winning entries in The Virginias were:

Best Sports Play-by-Play, for WMUL-FM's broadcast of the College Insider.com Tournament Championship, Marshall men's basketball versus University of Wisconsin Green Bay, played at the Cam Henderson Center in Huntington on April 4, 2019. The students calling the men's basketball game broadcast over FM 88.1 were:

- Play-by-Play announcer – Nick Verzolini, a junior from Stewartstown, Pennsylvania;
- Color Commentator – Andrew Rogers, a sophomore from Clarksburg;
- Courtside Reporter — Savanah Matney, a senior from South Point, Ohio, and
- Engineer – Wesley Steele, a sophomore from Flatwoods, Kentucky.

Best Station Promo, for "WMUL Sports Flavor Parlor" an in-house promotional announcement broadcast in WMUL-FM's promotion announcement rotation beginning on Dec. 2, 2019, that is still in rotation was written and produced by sophomore Tyler Kennett from Rock, W.Va..

The four second-place award winning entries were:

Outstanding News Operation for The Virginias, presented to The Newscenter 88 Team, which was led during 2019 calendar year by WMUL-FM News Director Makaylah Wheeler, a junior from Huntington.

Best Station Promo, presented for "WMUL Cult," an in-house promotional announcement broadcast in WMUL-FM's Promotion Announcement rotation beginning Sept. 26, 2019, and still in rotation. It was written and produced by Zane Bowles, a junior from Sandstone, and features the primary voice talents of Bowles, and the background cult chanting talents of David Adkins, a junior from Huntington; Derrick Bowen, a junior from Huntington; Haley Brown a freshman from Weirton; Andrew Corliss, a sophomore from Evans; Ashley Ross, a junior from Huntington; Tristan Shepard, a junior from Prichard; and Wesley Steele.

Outstanding Sports Operation for The Virginias, presented to the FM 88 sports staff led during 2019 calendar year by WMUL-FM Sports Director Nick Verzolini.

Best Sports Play-by-Play, presented for WMUL-FM's broadcast of Marshall football versus Virginia Military Institute (VMI), played at Joan C. Edwards Stadium in Huntington on Aug. 31, 2019. The students calling the football game broadcast over FM 88.1 were:

- Play-by-play announcer Andrew Rogers;
- Color commentator Nick Verzolini;
- Sideline Reporter Savannah Matney;
- On-site Engineer Spencer DuPuis, a senior from Leesburg, Virginia;
- Engineers Wesley Steele and Tyler Kennett.

WMUL students received an honorable mention award during the Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts Student Audio Competition. The award was presented in the "Sports Play-By-Play" category for WMUL-FM's broadcast of the College Insider.com Tournament Championship, Marshall men's basketball versus University of Wisconsin Green Bay on April 4, 2019.

"The accomplishments of sports announcers Nick Verzolini, Andrew Rogers and courtside reporter Savannah Matney were rewarded as evidenced by their honorable mention finish in the sports play-by-play category," Bailey said. "Winning never comes easy, but for Marshall University, the student broadcasters of WMUL-FM consistently earn honors in direct competition with nationally recognized colleges and universities."

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The next regular issue of *We Are...Marshall* will be distributed May 20, 2020. Please send items for consideration to [WAMnewsletter@marshall.edu](mailto:WAMnewsletter@marshall.edu) by 5 p.m. Monday, May 18, 2020.

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To read the content of this newsletter online, please click on the following link:  
[www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/May-13-2020](http://www.marshall.edu/wamnewsletter/May-13-2020).